

# POLITICAL PICNIC

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1896

## HAIL TO THE CHIEF!

A Royal Welcome to Canada's  
G. O. M.

BY 2,500 REPRESENTATIVE MEN

Speeches by Sir John Thompson and Hon. Mr. Tapper.

The political picnic is a comparatively new feature of Nova Scotia politics, and only needs to be introduced to become popular. The picnic at Donaldson's grounds on the picturesque shores of Bedford Basin on Wednesday was a grand success—notwithstanding that the season is late for picnicking. All the leading liberal-conservatives of the city and county and a great many ladies were present, together with a large representation from every part of the province, including the following:

T. E. Kenny, M.P., Hon. D. McN. Parker, Hon. W. B. Vail, Professor Russell, Hugh Cameron, M.P., Judge Weatherbe, Judge Johnson, David McKen, M.P., Senator McFarlane, ex-Governor McDonald of P. E. Island, Sir Adams Archibald, M.P., Senator Kaulbach, H. F. McDougall, M.P., Arthur Dickie, M.P., Herbert Jones, M.P., John B. Mills, M.P., J. N. Freeman, M.P., Hon. Hiram Black, Hon. W. H. Owen, Richard W. Weidon, M.P., John McDougall, M.P., Barclay Webster, M.P.P., T. B. Smith, M.P.P., William Oxley, M.P.P., William Cameron, M.P.P., C. H. Oshen, M.P.P., Alex. Grant, M.P.P., Dr. McKay, ex-M.P.P., John Osholm, ex-M.P.P., David A. Hann, ex-M.P.P., Dr. McLennan, ex-M.P.P., C. E. Kaulbach, ex-M.P.P., Thomas Harris, ex-M.P.P., L. S. Ford, ex-M.P.P., C. B. Whidden, ex-M.P.P., L. D. V. Chipman, ex-M.P.P., J. D. Rolston, Yarmouth Times, J. A. Black, Amherst Gazette, J. J. Stewart, Herald, W. B. Alley Sun, Truro, Albert Dennis, Pictou Standard, W. A. Leeson, Lunenburg Argus, A. O. Bertram, North Sydney Herald, C. S. Harrington, Q. O. H. N. Paine, ex-M.P., Hugh McD. Henry, Q. O., D. F. McLean, Dr. J. J. Cameron, T. J. Sears, C. E. Tanner, James Purcell, Lewis McKen, Roderick Ferguson, D. O. Gillis, C. A. Hall, John McKen, H. E. Giller, J. Medley Townshend, Benjamin Sarritt, J. F. McLean, Alfred Putnam, M. P., Adams McDougall, W. D. Sutherland, Mayor Wolfe, of Lunenburg, J. B. Rudolph, F. G. Parker, John F. Sault, J. A. Chipman, John White, F. J. Tremaine, Wiley Smith, Patrick O'Mullin, J. Z. Payzant, J. O. Major, Ald. Lyon, Ald. Foster, Ald. Mosher, Ald. Dennis, Ald. Sanford, Ald. Hasleim, Ald. Adams, Ald. Power, Ald. Hamilton, Jonathan Parsons, McC. Grant, John Pugh, ex-M. P. P. B. Swenerton, W. A. Black, W. D. Cameron, John Donal, J. W. Allen, Dr. W. M. Cameron, Senator McKay, James P. Morrow, J. P. Cox, S. M. Broadfield, W. N. Silver, E. G. Kennedy, J. C. P. F. ze, John Sutherland, E. D. Tacker, Stephen Tobin, Ex-M.P.

Canada along the road to prosperity will help her still, and that policy has been that although we were willing to have fair trade with the people of the United States, we were not willing that they should wave the American flag, put on us American taxes and be Americans and Canadians at the same time. (Cheers.) We were determined to foster the industries of our own people in order that our workmen might get work at home. You have read threadbare criticisms on that policy, but everybody knows that that policy has prospered and has found work for thousands of workmen in every province of Canada. (Applause.) But the policy which the Macdonald government inaugurated was also a policy of extension of the public works throughout the country from this end of the country away to the Pacific coast. A friend of mine made humorously the statement recently that 'faith without works is dead,' meaning to apply the phrase to public works (laughter) and to the political faith of the people of Canada in their own destiny. While Sir John A. Macdonald's policy appealed to the public faith, he was not forgetful of the great public works of the country, and the result of his policy is that there is not a finer roadway of internal communication or of canal communication in any other part of the world of the like size or population than exists in Canada now. [Applause.] What Canadians have done by their efforts Providence has been pleased to favor with the blessings of prosperity which is enriching this country to-day. You will see it stated in the press opposed to us that

THERE IS NO PROSPERITY IN THE COUNTRY, and one or two instances of falling or suspending concerns will be quoted as evidence of general decay and ruin following upon the national policy. Sir, the national policy put means within the hands of the people for establishing their own industries and employing their own workmen. It is, however, impossible to prevent, by any policy, over-production which results from time to time in local disadvantage and depression; but in spite of that circumstance and in spite of what the opposition press tell you, if you consult the opinion of intelligent business men all over Canada they will tell you that in the autumn of 1890 there is no part of Canada where business is on so sound a basis, and where there is such cause for contentment and satisfaction as in this province of Nova Scotia. (Applause.) Let me ask you what it is that our opponents have to say to this, and why they are unwilling to acknowledge the policy of Sir John A. Macdonald as the true policy for the country. Our opponents throw in your faces that old weather-beaten story about the vast markets of the United States, and that threadbare, threadbare parable about the natural markets for the country being in the United States. What is the use of talking about natural markets being in the United States if they are so closed to us by protective duties that we cannot sell our products there. (Hear, hear.) What is the use of discussing as to whether our natural market is here or there?

### THE ONLY MARKET WE WANT

Is the market where we can sell something and we do not care whether that is a natural market or not. (Applause.) Our opponents have frequently taunted me for saying years ago that the natural market for our coal was in the United States. So it was. But when the

on the statute book a statutory invitation with respect to reciprocity in natural products. You may challenge your opponents also with this assertion that when the Americans professed as regards one or two articles to be willing to accept that statutory offer they never manifested a genuine willingness to accept it entirely and in good faith. Two or three years ago they proposed that if we would take out the duty from fruit and shrubs they would do the same in their country. They took the duty off and said "here is the United States market open to your nurserymen, and we ask you to strike off the duties of like kind." Well, we struck them off and what did they do in the United States? In the only states accessible to our nurserymen, by acts of the state legislatures they made it a mad man's work for a Canadian to sell a shrub in those states. That is the way in which the statutory offer of this country has been considered from time to time in the United States. Let me say to you in regard to another phase of this question of reciprocity that our opponents endeavour to find an answer to our arguments by putting forward the statement that when the fishery question was being discussed in 1893 Sir Charles Tupper made a broad offer to the United States asking them to settle this question upon the basis of reciprocity between the two countries. We are taunted by the opposition press who claim that that offer was one of unrestricted reciprocity. I admit that it was so wide that any reciprocity could be discussed under it, either reciprocity in natural products or unrestricted reciprocity or even commercial union. Now let us assume that the offer of Sir Charles Tupper was one of unrestricted reciprocity as our opponents claim it was. It was met with

### A POINT-BLANK REFUSAL

by the diplomats of that country, who said that they desired to enter into no negotiations on the subject whatever. You have recently observed a resolution introduced into the senate of the United States favoring negotiations for reciprocal trade, and also the answer of our government which came from the first minister of the crown, and which was that whenever the United States passed any resolution of that kind, proposing negotiations for reciprocal trade relations we were ready to meet them. Unfortunately for the arguments of those charging us with being unfavorable to reciprocity, the resolution introduced into the United States senate could not even be advanced as far as a vote in the senate, so utterly hostile was that body to it. (Applause.) Under these circumstances I ask you as sensible Nova Scotians, what kind of honor or honesty is exhibited by those who are charging us as opponents of reciprocity. They ask you what we have done so bring it about. Let me ask you in reply what have they done to prevent it. I state here that our opponents have done more to prevent it than the whole protectionist body in the United States. (Hear, hear.) They have proclaimed in parliament and in their newspapers and from political platforms that this country has no markets for its products—that its farms are mortgaged, and its people idle and practically that we are in a starving condition, and that unless we get reciprocity with the United States we shall be driven into annexation. Now Sir, when you want to trade with your neighbor do you tell him that

YOU WILL DIE OF STARVATION IF HE DOES NOT BUY?

Is that the way to make a bargain? (Applause and laughter.) And yet the people of this country have heard of resolutions moved

Onba and in flooding day the increase with the P which are B. also. I will make and will Canada make of the ing over the that our con of the Uni most favour in 1885. It had been a have had th independence By the sel the policy of John A. Mc coming ind the), and w independent able to say a few excep unfortunately in this

THE DESTINY TO BE CON OF

and I believe procy, liber ing to raise t anxious a wish the Ua to sacrifice to obtain th mined, even on waving th determined Canadian as You may rec try place it can make a rests and in the conservat enter into ne to a consen leading orga what do you has been in h years has rec so far as rec removed from the absolute prest a resolut has put an ex or who is on side of the li other party willing to ments wh to make.

press, how on the the A. Macdon Remember, a merit in the reciprocity in liberal ome willing to arrangement and that th not willing done ten a due to a me could a reciprocity made the U have only to wille longer permission to oil use and scries as Blair. The country. (O that day.

# CHRONIC AT HALIFAX.

Y, OCTOBER 1st, 1890.

any invitation  
natural pro-  
opponents  
when the  
one or two  
that statutory  
a genuine  
y and in good  
they pro-  
the duty  
would do in  
took the duty  
States market  
ask you to  
nd." Wel, we  
they do in the  
the accessible  
of the state  
manor for a  
stute statute.  
statutory (the  
eldered from  
tes. Let me  
phase of this  
opponents  
to our argu-  
statement that  
a being dis-  
apper made a  
asking them  
on the basis  
two countries.  
don press who  
unrecovered  
so wide  
nused under  
products or  
a comm-rol  
at the offer of  
unrecovered  
alm it was.

SAL

ry, who said  
to no negotia-  
s. You have  
in introduced  
ates favoring  
trade, and  
nents which  
of the crown,  
of the United  
of that kind,  
prood trade  
them. Un-  
those charg-  
o reciprocity,  
the United  
o advanced as  
terly hostile  
ae.) Under  
a service  
of honor or  
no are charg-  
city. They  
so bring it  
ly what have  
en here that  
o prevent it  
body in the  
They have  
their news-  
ms that this  
or its pro-  
mortgaged,  
practically  
on, and that  
the United  
annexation.  
e with your

IF HE DOES

vals? (Ap-  
the people of  
tions moved

Onba and into other countries and we are finding day by day in these islands and in the increased trade with Great Britain and with the Pacific markets for the products which are to be excluded from the United States. That policy is one which will make this country self reliant and will greatly aid in making Canada much more independent of the markets of the United States. No man in looking over the files of Canada to day can deny that our condition as regards independence of the United States markets compare most favourably with the condition existing in 1865. If anything like the McKisley bill had been adopted in 1865 you would not have had the splendid manifestation of hearty independence which exists in Canada to day. By the self reliance of our people and by the policy of development inaugurated by Sir John A. McDougal's government we are becoming independent of legislation such as that, and we will be rapidly growing more independent in the future. I am glad to be able to say that the press of the country with few exceptions, and these exceptions unfortunately are to be found mostly in this province, are declaring that

THE DESTINIES OF THIS COUNTRY ARE NOT TO BE CONTROLLED BY THE BULLDOZING OF THE UNITED STATES.

and I believe that the best friends of reciprocity, liberals and conservatives, are willing to raise their hands to-morrow and say, anxious as we are for reciprocity on fair terms with the United States, we are not willing to sacrifice the independence of this country to obtain that reciprocity, and we are determined, even if it displeases Mr. Blaine, to go on waving the British flag—and that we are determined to be Canadians if we cannot be Canadians and Americans both. (Applause.) You may rely upon it that whenever a country places itself in such a position that we can make a fair treaty with it in your interests and in their interests if the whole country the conservative party will be quite willing to enter into negotiations to bring that treaty to a consummation. If you consult the leading organs of public opinion in Ontario what do you find? The Toronto Mail which has been in hostility to us for the last four years has recently declared that the game, so far as reciprocity is concerned, is entirely removed from practical politics, and that the absolute refusal of the United States to pass a resolution in favour of negotiations has put an end to any discussion as to who is or who is not in favour of reciprocity on this side of the line—and that it is now for the other party to the bargain to say that it is willing to make the trade arrangements which Canada is willing to make. Another section of the press, however, is eager to keep up the cry that the government of Sir John A. Macdonald is opposed to reciprocity. Remember, gentlemen, that that cry has no merit in itself, and that the efforts to obtain reciprocity in the past have come from the liberal conservative party, that we are willing to make a fair reciprocity arrangement with the United States, and that those who tell you that we are not willing to have reciprocity they have done ten times more injury to the cause than any form of agitation or argument could accomplish; but (if the day of reciprocity between the two countries, and made the United States believe that they have only to keep us out in the cold a little while longer in order to make us beg for permission to become humble American citizens and waive the stars and stripes as followers of James G. Blaine. That day has not come in this country. (Cries of no, no—cheers.) And this day will never come.

our opponents and they have been able to take but one from us—and that one, as you know, they only secured by a very narrow majority. The constituency of Haldimand, which was formerly regarded as a stronghold of the liberals, has been won by us from the enemy. The province of Quebec looked bright for the liberals according to their contention, but now

MONTMORENCY HAS SHOWN HOW THE WIND IS BLOWING,

and our friends, the liberals, are now lying low. But they will have to come before the people to propound a policy. One reason for the great strength of the conservative party in this country is not merely the fact of the preservation of the national policy but the guarding well the affairs of the people and the interests of labor and the encouragement of the home market. I wish to give thanks to our genial friend, the Hon. Mr. Jones, for having opened the eyes of liberals and conservatives as to what treatment we might expect from the liberal rule—national policy or no national policy. From 1876 to 1877 the house of commons rang with charges from that gentleman stronger than he can utter now against the present occupants of the treasury benches. From 1876 to 1877 he told you enough to put you on your guard against the machinations of the liberal party until they mended their ways. He told you that they had been guilty of a breach of faith towards Nova Scotia. He charged the Mackenzie administration with having swept away a valuable statistical system that this province enjoyed until the liberals came into power. He charged them with a breach of faith in connection with the Canada Pacific railway. He impeached his own party and the government for the terms of the Union and for undertaking to build and complete the Canada Pacific railway. He also charged them with having

DRIVEN FROM THE MARITIME PROVINCES a trade worth three or four millions of dollars a year, which, according to his statement, was driven to New York and Boston—making these two cities, as he said, the capitals of out West India trade. I say that the people of this province have not forgotten these charges. Following hot upon them, Hon. Mr. Jones was elevated to the position of minister of militia, and took his seat alongside of Mr. Mackenzie on the treasury benches. The charges were not afterwards repeated, but that appointment did not condone the treatment which the liberal party had been guilty of. I allude to these incidents in order to show the electors that they must keep their weather eye open in observing the methods of the liberal party. Beyond the tortuous conduct of our opponents, the real reason for the success of the conservative party is to be found in the fidelity with which that party has maintained the national policy. [Applause.] We are ready to do a fair trade with any nation in the world, but at the same time we recollect what Mr. Mackenzie's government forgot—to their cost,—the necessity of always safeguarding the home market. (Applause.) We remember well the time when both political parties stood on a common platform

leader. He has brought us to this point of independence, splendidly and when we consider his efforts it would be a poor compliment to these efforts to say when he is gone from us—a day which will be long delayed, I hope—that we are not able to carry on the good work and profit by the lessons he has taught us. Now, sir, let me deal with another question. I am not so foolish as to deny that the utterances of the leaders of the opposition carry great weight in this country and that their statements are carefully considered. I am willing to admit that that party has considerable strength and that since 1867 it contains a number of men who honestly differ from our party in regard to the manner in which the destiny of this country should be worked out, but I cannot help saying that the leaders of that party have been so desperately driven that

THEY HAVE FORGOTTEN THEIR MANHOOD AND FORGOTTEN THEIR SENSE OF HONOR,

and the interests of the country, and have endeavored to fill your minds with despair by language which has encouraged all the evil disposed minds in the neighboring country to approve of the policy of clapping on the pressure in order to bring us to a point when they can dictate to us. Let me call your attention to some of the utterances of the leaders of the liberal party. Mr. Laurier is an estimable man in his way, but he is a man who has not yet as a leader won his political honors. Take that gentleman's statements in 1888 at Oakville, when he said, standing in his constitutional position as leader of the opposition,—that since 1867 down to that date the people of Canada had not advanced one single iota—not one single iota. Those were his exact words. If (and I wish to God he had only meant such an application) he had applied that statement to the career of the liberal party, it would be more appropriate and correct. (Applause and laughter.) But in making that statement he was referring to the great interests of the country. I say that the statement was without foundation in fact, and since I know him to be an able man I cannot but believe that he knew that that statement was without foundation. Sir Richard Cartwright, another leader of the opposition, had the hardihood to say in parliament, and his remarks can be found in Hansard,—that, for 35 years in the history of this country there had been no depression equal to the depression of 1889. Is there a man, woman or child in Nova Scotia that believes one word of such a statement? (Cries of 'No,' 'No,' and a voice—'We believe it to be a lie.' Laughter.) But these are statements by which the leaders of the liberal party are endeavoring to whip you into a position which you would not otherwise assume. Sir Richard Cartwright, a private councillor and a sworn subject of Her Majesty, is endeavoring also to use another argument even more degrading than the one I have referred to. That other argument is that you have to be very careful in your relations with the United States; you must remember that Great Britain would not put forth any great effort to preserve this country as an integral part of the British Empire and that you have to yield, and had better yield gracefully, if you desire to maintain an independent position on this continent. As time presses I will not give you facts and figures by which I could confute his statements. Even if you take

THE STATISTICS AS REGARDS FOREIGN TRADE, which I do not regard as the best test, we stand in this position that the trade of

that while New England would gain that much the price of American coal now used in that market would drop perceptibly, and their iron trade established in competition with yours would be stimulated; and intelligent business men will tell you that our coal would not find its way to the American market. The coal would be cheaper, but the coal that would be consumed would be the coal carried in American bottoms and over United States railways with low freight rates. Mr. McKenzie, who was a firm friend of the Union at the outset, predicted the extraordinary condition of affairs that you are witnessing to-day. He said, when people were prophesying all sorts of evil about confederation that there were always that sort of people in the country, and that the worst of it was that **THESE PROPHETS OF EVIL DID THEIR BEST TO BRING THAT EVIL ABOUT.**

He did not refer to the liberal party which was then broken up, but how applicable are his words to the liberal party to-day. You find that party to-day carrying out the policy referred to by Mr. Mackenzie and doing their best to bring about every evil and disorder to our trade and commerce. Some liberals, however, say that an opposition should have no policy and that the liberal party consequently have no policy to-day. Others say that they have a well defined policy and coming up to the fountain head, Messrs. Laurier and Cartwright, admit this—that is the talk about unrestricted reciprocity is merely a cry. It seems to be more like a whine. (Applause and laughter.) They always seem to have a friend on the other side of the line who is just about to make an offer as free and as liberal as possible, but whenever an interesting juncture comes, presto! the offer vanishes. Congress is paved with reciprocity resolutions. (Applause and laughter.) Hardly a session occurs but a resolution of a liberal character is moved and some able man is connected with that resolution, but, as we have seen, congress rises and the resolution or bill is seen no more until next session. Cleveland and the democratic party, so Sir Richard Cartwright said, were going to give us unrestricted reciprocity, and were it not for Sir John A. Macdonald and his horrible policy of maintaining Canadian rights and protecting our flag upon the high seas (laughter)—if it were not for such annoying things as these the Americans would give us reciprocity. But after the first declaration from Sir Richard Cartwright what happened? A retaliatory bill was introduced into the American congress and we were threatened with all sorts of pains and penalties and the moment Mr. Cleveland was defeated this very same gentleman jumped to the front and said "Blaine is the man." (Laughter.) "Blaine was our man all the time." (Renewed laughter.) Mr. Blaine is a republican, but his resolution is in favor of reciprocity did not carry.

Sir John A. Macdonald—Blaine was a miser. (Laughter.)

Hon. Mr. Tupper—Now, Mr. Hilt and Mr. Batterworth were going to conduct the republican party up to the grand liberal level, but their resolutions were not carried in congress. Then Mr. Bill McKenney—as he is sometimes vulgarly called, (laughter) came to the front and again there is

**WEeping AND GNASHING OF TEETH IN THE LIBERAL RANKS.**

Sir John Thompson has referred you to one statement of Mr. Blaine and according to "our friends the enemy," Mr. Blaine is in his coat pocket or somewhere else another statement which he does not wish to be made public until the general elections in Canada come off. (Laughter.) What is the use of looking to Blaine or Cleveland. You should pay your money and take your shares of either Sir John A. Macdonald or Laurier or

great measures for promoting and strengthening Canadian union and development, which form so conspicuous a feature of your forty-six years of successful statesmanship, the province of Nova Scotia has not been backward in giving you a loyal support. Since the union of the provinces, twenty three years ago, not only has Nova Scotia given you her most illustrious sons for colleagues, including Howe, Tupper, Archibald, McLellan, and the honored representatives from Nova Scotia in your ministry, who are present here to-day; but at every general election save one, that of '74, it has returned at least a two-thirds majority of its representatives to support the party of which you are the veteran leader. That record of steadfast fidelity to the enlightened and progressive policy of the liberal-conservative party—which has been surpassed by few, if any, of the other provinces—it is, as you have seen in the results of the by-elections in this province since 1887—our determination to steadily and fully maintain.

During the past four years we have watched with great interest the progress of negotiations looking to the adjustment of the Atlantic and Behring Sea fishery disputes with the United States, and the placing of our trade relations with that country upon a more satisfactory basis. Though the six months of free fishing given to the United States upon the abrogation of the Washington treaty, and the subsequent offer and extension of the term of the privileges granted under the *modus vivendi* had a tendency to place our fishermen in unequal competition with our republican neighbours, yet, the hardships involved in these concessions, which were charged by our political opponents to be an unjustifiable sacrifice of our interests, were cheerfully borne by our people in order that you and your colleagues might be able to show to the world that Canada was disposed to place no obstacles whatever in the way of reaching a satisfactory settlement. Nor have we failed to notice that during the negotiations which are now pending in reference to the loss and outrage suffered by our people in the Behring Sea, the policy of our ministry, while involving no great sacrifice of Canadian interests, has always been characterized by carefulness and moderation.

The trend of events has also shown that our republican neighbours are not disposed to re-enter into reciprocal trade relations with Canada, but that on the contrary the policy of the dominant political party is to impose higher duties upon many products of this country which find a more or less profitable market in the United States. We recognize that your government are, and have been, favorably disposed toward securing such increased commercial interchange with the United States as is consistent with the preservation of the political, fiscal and industrial independence of Canada, and that to attain that end you have done all you could do with due respect to the honor and interests of this country. We are persuaded that your firm, yet conciliatory policy, will at all times receive the hearty approval of the vast majority of the Canadian people.

Under your wise and vigorous administration of the government of this country, our railway system has been greatly extended and improved, our light and coast service enormously increased, our fisheries fostered and protected, our mining industry doubled, our manufacturing industry quadrupled and the wealth, prosperity and happiness of our people as a whole very greatly advanced. And we are pleased to know that further measures calculated to be of great and permanent advantage to this city and the province are at the present time engaging the attention of your government. The extension of the C. P. R. and C. N. R. to the

by men abler than myself, men full of vigour—earnest and patriotic

**MEN WHOM NOVA SCOTIANS ARE PROUD OF** as their representatives (hear, hear,) and men whom I am proud of as my colleagues (applause). My two honorable colleagues have so fully and ably explained the policy of the government, and the position of the country, and its happy condition, notwithstanding the futile attempts to injure it or to defame it—that I am relieved from the necessity of addressing you at length. And, indeed, my strength would not enable me to do so. I might sit down simply with the acknowledgment of my delight at your kindly reception. But I have to relieve my conscience on one point. I have a strong feeling of humanity, and a Christian feeling towards my opponents, and I must relieve the apprehension of the grit party all over Canada. (Laughter.) Have you looked at their press lately? Have you seen how fearful they are at the possibility of an appeal to the people? A year ago when they thought we in Ontario were going to fly at each others' throats on some ecclesiastical question, they challenged the government to dissolve. They said, "go to the people; you do not represent the people; we challenge you to go the polls and receive the condemnation of the electors." How different is their tone to-day! (Great laughter.) They now say: "You have no right to dissolve the house; it would be unconstitutional to dissolve parliament; (laughter); the governor-general would be committing a gross breach of the constitution, which he has sworn to uphold, if he took Sir John Macdonald's advice." (Laughter.) Well, I am going to relieve their minds. I may as well tell them now that we are not going to dissolve. Satisfied with our majority, fully enjoying the weakness of our opponents, occasionally patting one of them on the back when he is hitting his brother in opposition (laughter), we are quite willing to allow events to flow on until this parliament terminates, against their will, the political life of our opponents. (Applause and laughter.) We are satisfied also from the assurances made in your address to me, and from what my experience of the electorate of Nova Scotia has been, that the record of your support to the liberal-conservative cause since 1867 will not be altered by the decision of the people of Nova Scotia in 1891 or possibly in 1892. I am almost afraid to speak of the possibility that the present parliament will last until 1892 lest

**THE OPPOSITION IN HOPELESS DESPAIR MIGHT GIVE UP THE SHIP.**

(Laughter.) That would not be good for us, because an active opposition is a very good thing for a government. I try to steer pretty straight, but if I had it all my own way and was without any check, or without a friend on the other side of the house giving me a hint that I was occasionally going wrong, I might err. (Laughter.) And perhaps one of the reasons I have been so successful—as you are kind enough to state—is that during all that time I have had a strong—not to say factions—opposition. (Laughter.) As to my faults, if I don't know them it is not because I was not told them. (Applause.) My portrait was drawn frequently, and in the grit papers it was not drawn with chalk but with charcoal

built so much that a me-  
gridiron. the same  
ing every  
tious to  
It is very  
sworn in  
their sala  
year, and  
and then

"w  
while at  
try is b  
such econ  
not afraid  
are not al  
the world  
erate rate  
pay three  
while in  
cent in r  
country.  
later in O  
namesake  
Donald.  
Ontario a  
cedingl  
governme  
revenue a  
said to hi  
your reve  
laughter)  
Mr. McK  
in the lo  
went arou  
members,  
Donald; j  
out, and  
money the  
mulating.  
McDonald  
own mon  
told on m  
than one  
care that  
THE OPPO

Gentle  
country i  
country, I  
have done  
tered in  
ficient rail  
every pro  
respect.  
We have  
gation in  
nothing is  
has been  
under the  
John A.  
handed ov  
kenzie in  
for five y  
tion his  
which we  
They pass  
bribery a  
a little m  
they also  
ingmen.  
I ask you  
assembly  
single m  
ment whi  
this coun  
a reply.  
salaries a  
country  
growth

men full of  
 ARE PROUD OF  
 ear, hear,) and  
 my colleagues  
 able colleagues  
 ained the policy  
 position of the  
 tion, notwith-  
 to injure it or  
 believed from the  
 t length. And,  
 not enable me to  
 simply with the  
 elight at your  
 ve to relieve my  
 I have a strong  
 ristian feeling  
 I must relieve  
 t party all over  
 e you looked at  
 you seen how  
 ossibility of an  
 ago when they  
 were going to  
 ats on some  
 challenged the  
 ey said, "go to  
 sent the people;  
 polls and re-  
 the electors."  
 o-day! (Great  
 "You have no  
 it would be un-  
 diament; (laugh-  
 would be com-  
 the constitution,  
 old, if he took  
 " (Laughter.)  
 their minds. I  
 that we are not  
 satisfied with our  
 weakness of our  
 ing one of them  
 ing his brother  
 are quite will-  
 on until this  
 at their will, the  
 ts. (Applause  
 isified also from  
 address to me,  
 e of the elector-  
 that the record  
 ral-conservative  
 altered by the  
 Nova Scotia in  
 I am almost  
 ibility that the  
 until 1892  
 ELESS DESPAIR  
 SHIP.  
 not be good for  
 sition is a very  
 ment. I try to  
 I had it all my  
 any check, or  
 nher side of the  
 I was occasion-  
 r. (Laughter.)  
 ones I have been  
 kind enough to  
 that time I have  
 ctions—opposi-  
 my faults, if I  
 because I was not  
 My portrait was  
 the grit papers it  
 but with char-

built so many railways in that province that a map of New Brunswick looks like a gridiron. (Laughter.) And we are doing the same in Nova Scotia. We are developing every part of Canada and we will continue to develop it. (Applause.) It is very easy for a dozen gentlemen to be sworn in as cabinet ministers, and to draw their salaries, and call a session once a year, and not improve the country at all, and then to exclaim:

"WE ARE VERY ECONOMICAL,"

while at the same time the country is being pinched and ruined by such economy. We, on the contrary, are not afraid of the future of the country, and are not afraid of going into the markets of the world and securing money at a moderate rate to improve our country. We pay three and one half per cent. interest, while in many cases we get twenty per cent in return in the development of the country. (Hear, hear.) We had a minister in Ontario once, who was almost a namesake of mine,—John Sanfield McDonald. He was first prime minister of Ontario after confederation. He was exceedingly economical in the policy of his government. He hoarded up the annual revenue as if it were a sin to spend it. I said to him once: "If you do not spend your revenue the opposition will," (great laughter) My prediction came true. Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Blake were both in the local legislature then, and they went around the house and said to the members, "there is no use in going to McDonald; join us and turn these fellows out, and we will scatter broadcast the money that John Sanfield has been accumulating." And accordingly they turned McDonald out. He was beaten by his own money. (Laughter.) I have since told on more than one occasion, to more than one audience, that I will take good care that

THE OPPOSITION WILL NOT PLAY THAT GAME ON ME.

Gentlemen, you who know what our country is and what are the wants of the country, are able to appreciate what we have done. Sir John Thompson has referred in eloquent strains to our magnificent railway system. We have improved every province in the Dominion in that respect. Look also at our canal system. We have the most wonderful inland navigation in the whole world. There is nothing in any nation equal to it. That has been carried on and will be maintained under the extravagant government of Sir John A. Macdonald. (Applause.) We handed over the government to Mr. Macdonald in 1873. He governed the country for five years, and during his administration his government passed some laws which were good enough in their way. They passed a law, for instance, to prevent bribery at elections, and to punish thieves a little more severely than before; and they also passed laws to protect the workmen. These were all good laws. But I ask any man, woman or child in this assembly to stand up and point out one single measure adopted by that government which advanced the prosperity of this country one single inch. I pause for a reply. These gentlemen drew their salaries and governed the country, but the country practically lost five years' growth as the net result of

liberal-conservative, and Sir Wm. Howland, an old reformer, who, like many other old reformers, gave me his support; they went to Washington and failed. In 1871 when the Washington treaty was negotiated, I was one of the commissioners that negotiated that treaty. We urged upon the United States government, and upon the president of the United States that we should not confine ourselves to settling the dispute about the Alabama seizures, and about the fishery question, but should make it the occasion of a consideration of a large treaty of commerce. They told us that they could not do it. The commissioners, the chief of whom was General Grant's prime minister, Mr. Fish, was one of the government himself. He was secretary of state; but he and they said to us 'we have no instructions and there is no use of approaching the government of the United States, because they will not agree to any treaty of reciprocity.' Again Sir Chas. Tupper in 1888 had the same experience. He went to Washington having full power and instructions to deal with the United States, and ask them to negotiate for a reciprocity treaty. His offer to them was wide in its terms, so that there was no kind of reciprocity treaty that might not be included in the discussion between the commissioners; they had agreed. Of course our commissioners would have seen that the industries of Canada would receive fair play and that our manufactures would not have been crushed before they attained maturity. There are of course, besides the agricultural products of the country, and the products of the sea, many other articles of trade that might have been considered and reciprocity in them agreed upon without in any way injuring the industries which we had fostered with so much care. But it was of no use to attempt to enter into any negotiations having the effect of reciprocal development of trade, as my hon. colleagues have told you. The fact is that

THE UNITED STATES COVET CANADA.

They desire to have it. Formerly they expressed rather a contemptuous opinion of this northern country—a region of snow and ice. But now when they see that by the aid of the C. P. R., and the various steamship lines, that we are competing in trade with them, and that Canada is stretching its arms south, west and east, they covet Canada. They are furthermore told by enemies in our own country, by Canadians, "Hold out, do not grant Canada any privilege, keep the screws upon Canada, and the Canadians are so sordid that they will sell their allegiance, their country even if you will but hold out for a few years more." "If the tory government will not do it, give us a little help, send us a little of your money, send us Mr. Wiman—a man born in Canada and who has invested all his money and a good deal of his credit in the United States,—send Mr. Wiman here, and he will do us more good than if an American citizen were sent." Mr. Wiman, I may explain is a Canadian by birth and he tells you that he intends remaining a Canadian, and will not become a United States citizen, because he would not in that case have so much influence in Canada in getting the Canadians to sacrifice their interests and sell themselves to the United States (Hear, hear). But gentlemen, I have no fear that

made from United States barley, and the brewers could only attain the perfection of larger beer by getting first-class Canadian barley. Well, their congress put a duty on that article with the hope of keeping it out of the United States market, and giving a chance to their inferior grain. When we heard this the present government said,—'Very well; if we cannot find a market for six-rowed barley in the United States we will find a market for two-rowed barley in England. An Englishman is as fond of his beer as a German; and as English beer is made out of two-rowed barley we will make a change in the crop.' Hon. Mr. Carling, our Minister of Agriculture, imported 20,000 bushels of two-rowed barley, and sold it at cost price to the farmers of the dominion. It was eagerly bought up. The farmers have had a good year for the experiment, and I am happy to say that the experiment has been successful, and that the two-rowed barley has harvested well. We have thus secured an unlimited market in England for all the barley we can raise by our farmers merely changing the variety sown. (Applause.)

WE DID NOT CRY

because the United States imposed a duty upon that particular article, but we opened a successful market in England. The truth of the matter is that the United States practically say to us: 'If you want reciprocity with us or trade with us there is only one of two things you can do,—either annex yourselves to us or sever yourselves from Great Britain; start out for yourselves, or join us and we will deal with you, but as long as you are a portion of the British empire we will not deal with you.' Well, as to annexation there is not one man here in favor of it; and I am sure the ladies are not in favor of it. The only annexation they want is a union with a fine handsome fellow with plenty of money, (laughter) and as for being independent—how long would we remain independent? Texas became an independent republic,—"the Lone Star" republic. But very soon afterwards United States citizens went in and manipulated the polls and 'the lone star republic' was swallowed up by another republic. (Hear, hear.) That would be our fate. According to the old saying it would be a case of the lion and the lamb lying down together, but with the lamb inside the lion. (Prolonged laughter.) No such fate threatens us, however, if we are true to ourselves and true to our country, and true to our children, and our children's children. We must continue to remain as we are, happy in living under a magnificent climate, happy in the possession of a fertile soil and a law abiding population, and happy in being an integral portion of the greatest and grandest empire known to history. (Loud applause.) And I am satisfied that as year after year goes on, the wisdom of remaining as we are, and retaining our present constitution—the wisdom of resting upon the ancient monarchy of Great Britain and working out our destiny in connection with that great country will be pressed upon us more and more. (Cheers.)

LOOK WHAT GREAT BRITAIN IS DOING

Allison, Dr. W. M. Cameron, Senator McKay, James P. Morrow, J. P. Cox, S. M. Brookfield, W. N. Silver, E. G. Conway, J. C. P. F. zw, John Sutherland, E. D. Tacker, Stephen Tobin, Ex-M.P., William Lawson, Robert Seaton, A. B. Mitchell, J. E. Wilson, B. C. Gray, N. M. Foster, Byron Weston, O. F. Fraser, J. W. Heckman, Donald Keith, George Mc Lellan, J. K. Munnie, W. H. Simpson, C. Mc Laren, F. A. King, S. S. Forrest, Warden Shattford, Dr. Oliver, Michael Walsh, the leading clergymen, and a host of representative men from the city and country who are too numerous to mention.

John F. Stairs, ex M.P. presided and appropriately introduced the speakers.

#### Sir John Thompson.

SIR JOHN THOMPSON, on coming forward, was accorded a most enthusiastic reception by the vast assemblage. He said:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I am glad to be among you this afternoon for the purpose of helping to give a good Nova Scotian welcome to the chieftain of the liberal-conservative party, who has come to pay a visit and to speak to you upon the great questions of the day. I am sure that you are all glad to receive him. I am sure that even his political opponents are glad to receive him in the city of Halifax, for I notice that the principal organ of our opponents in this province complains that it is a long time since he has been here, and that he does not come half often enough. (Applause and laughter.) We say with heart and voice that we are glad to have him here to address us on political questions or to visit us on past occasions, even for social purposes. I am aware that you are anxious to hear him and my other hon. colleague, and I shall therefore make my remarks agreeably short. Let me say that in welcoming Sir John Macdonald to Nova Scotia, we are welcoming the man who is at the head of the affairs of the greatest colony in the British Empire—(Applause)—and that that colony, thank Providence, has reached to-day a wonderful degree of prosperity. In no previous year has there been so much that Canadians should be proud and thankful for as in the present year. Looking at the state of affairs throughout our country, contrasted with the condition of affairs in the neighboring republic, considering the magnificent harvest now being gathered from the prairies of the Northwest, the abundant harvest in Ontario and the fair harvest and return for labor in our other provinces, as compared with the condition of affairs in the neighboring country and in the old country, where want goes abroad in the land, there is every reason for Canadians to feel proud and thankful for the prosperity which has come to them. (Applause.) In sending us these good things,

#### PROVIDENCE HAS HELPED THOSE WHO HELPED THEMSELVES.

Twelve years ago, when Sir John Macdonald took the reins of power in his hands, and placed before the people a new industrial policy, things were not in the happy condition of to-day. The markets of the United States had been closed against us more firmly even than they are now threatened to be, and a Chinese wall of protection then shut us out from trade with that country. Did you read the statement in which Mr. Blaine summed up the policy of the United States in regard to Canada? Mr. Blaine said: 'We never meant that the Canadians should wave the British flag and pay British taxes, and have at the same time an American market; we never meant that they should be Canadians and Americans as well.' I claim, sir, that the policy which has helped

market or not. (Applause.) Our opponents have frequently taunted me for saying years ago that the natural market for our coal was in the United States. So it was. But when the Americans closed down on us and said to us: 'You shall not sell another ton of coal in our country if a high tariff can prevent you doing so, we ceased to have a market there at all. Then the policy of the Macdonald government provided that their coal should be placed on nearly equal terms in this country and the result of the policy of Sir John Macdonald has been that the home market of a large part of Canada has been secured for our coal, and that the output of coal in this country has reached figures which nobody twelve years ago would have deemed possible. (Applause.) I have been asked to say whether I go back on the statement that the natural market for our coal is in the United States, and whether it would not be a benefit to our people to take off the duties on coal on both sides of the line. Let my opponents answer this question,—whether they are prepared to surrender and repeal the coal duties, whether the Americans repeal the coal duties or not? In the discussions upon this question in other parts of Canada our opponents say that they will relieve the people of Ontario from the burden of paying taxes on American coal by striking off the protective duties imposed in favor of the province of Nova Scotia, and will do so without winking for the like action in the United States. Let us have no mis-understanding upon this question. When people talk about the vast markets of the United States, and refer to the great results which followed the old reciprocity treaty, let us remember this fact that

THINGS HAVE CHANGED SINCE THEN, not only as regards the article of coal but as regards almost every other product. Produce which we used to sell in King's county for example, as well as coal which used to be shipped to the New England states are selling to-day in the eastern and middle states of America for far less than they used to be brought in the fields and at the mines of Nova Scotia. The great developments of agriculture in the United States has cheapened produce there so that we may never expect to again compete with them under similar conditions to those existing in 1865. The great development of railroads and mining in the United States has so cheapened coal in the New England States that they avow themselves that it would be hopeless for Nova Scotia to expect to compete in the New England states for a coal market. And yet people in dwelling upon the vast markets in that country point to a condition of affairs which existed in 1865, and which they could no more get back now than they could order a dead man to rise and open his eyes. Let me tell you frankly and in a few words what our policy is. Changed as the conditions of trade are between the United States and Canada it is admitted that there are still products which we can profitably exchange with that country with anything like a fair trade. We stand ready to-day, as our party has stood ready since the day it took office, to enter into reciprocity arrangements for fair trade between the two countries. (Applause.) All that we ask is that they shall not stipulate as they have done in half a dozen kite flying resolutions—by which phrase I do not include the Sherman resolutions—that they shall get the better of the bargain before they start to make the bargain. (Cheers and laughter.) When any opponents ask you whether we are opposed to reciprocity you can ask them to put their finger upon every treaty that in any way savoured of reciprocity and state whether such treaties did not come from the governments of Sir John A. Macdonald, and when they turn up the records they will find that it was through the instrumentality of the liberal conservative party that all such negotiations and treaties were adopted. (Applause.) With a view of

PUTTING ON RECORD A STANDING INVITATION it was the Macdonald government that put

Is that the way to make a bargain? (Applause and laughter.) And yet the people of this country have heard of resolutions moved by our opponents which declared that this country cannot live without reciprocity with the United States, and must have it or die. We credit our opponents with being perfectly willing to make a fair reciprocity treaty with the United States; but they are not sincere when they deny our willingness to make fair reciprocal terms with that country. We can point to statutes that have been passed—to offers that have been made—every one of which emanated from the Macdonald government. The difference between the policy of the liberal conservative party and that of their opponents consists in this, that we do not believe the story that Canada must have reciprocity or die. We are not willing to wait in idleness until reciprocity shall come by the grace of another country. We believe in a policy of extending public works throughout the length and breadth of the land, and when the American markets are closed to us, as they are threatened to be, we believe in seeking new markets in other parts of the world. (Applause.) When any of you are asked whether that policy is a sound one or not you have only to turn to the words which Sir Richard Cartwright uttered in Prince Edward Island in 1878. I quote from memory substantially what he then said

#### THERE CAN BE NO GREATER BARRIER TO OUR EFFORTS TO GET RECIPROCITY

than by continually telling the United States that we cannot get along without it.' Sir Richard Cartwright also added 'Canada can get along without it for when one door is closed against us we will open another and we will carry the war into Africa.' I am almost afraid, Mr. Chairman, to quote the exact words about carrying the war into Africa as I might be accused of jingoism. Now, that is what Sir Richard Cartwright said in 1878 and the liberal conservative party approve of that position and are not willing to yield up the destinies of Canada to the United States if the people of that country are not willing to trade with us without that. The words of Sir Richard Cartwright, uttered in 1878, are true to-day, and they represent the policy of the liberal conservative government ever since that year. The only difficulty in the matter is that Sir Richard Cartwright forgot his own lesson and has been teaching his own followers something different ever since. (Applause.) We have made arrangements to put upon the Pacific ocean as fine a fleet of steamers as traverses any ocean, and we are pressing forward arrangements to start from this port as fine a fleet of steamers as sails from any port of the world in order to increase the facilities for exporting our produce to Great Britain and to find a market there for a great part of the products which may be excluded from the United States under the new tariff. We have established for more than 18 months past lines of steamers from the port of Halifax—one to Cuba and another to Jamaica—by which potatoes, hay, fish and lumber are being carried to those countries to an extent enormously in excess of what they were before these lines of steamers had been established. No doubt you will be told by our opponents that these steamers only take the business from sailing craft. I looked at the official returns to day and I found that the number of sailing craft going to the West Indies is just as large to-day as it was five years ago, and that

#### IN REGARD TO THE TRADE TO CUBA

alone the steamers in a single year took products equal to the exports which could be taken by 60 schooners, and these products were finding a market in that country in place of products which formerly went there from New York. (Applause.) That must have been what Sir Richard Cartwright meant in 1878 about carrying the war into Africa. We have not carried the war into Africa, but we have carried it into

oil and  
stripes  
Blaine. That  
country. (On  
that day  
our people will  
our British  
relative indepen  
sageous comm  
be made. P  
Hon. M  
The Hon. M  
received with  
chairman, I  
highly gratified  
surprised at th  
that you have  
guished object  
my hon. collea  
referred to an  
papers in this  
distinguished  
Scotts. You a  
reason why I  
first leader of  
iniquitous an  
policy. You h  
the success of  
ways recognized  
for expressing  
supporting (u  
perhaps a thou  
spot was able  
derstand your  
your advantage  
some so-called  
you and count  
You have in t  
donald in rega  
of interest in  
than words. T  
and the prote  
is what you v  
does come and  
your apprecia  
you, and you  
by the grand r  
heartily given  
able defence  
John Thompo  
political quest  
great difficulty  
view of the s  
silence that  
opponents. A  
Halifax, or  
the policy of  
Yorker, a sece  
is  
A FRIEND TO I  
may tell you h  
Canada for the  
cost that since  
morency recent  
told you what  
is to be m  
said elsewhere  
liberal party  
they go to b  
be able to  
their leaders  
They are also  
and it is diffic  
leaders will ne  
arguments and  
administration  
liberal party  
thing long. T  
history since I  
position has a  
(Applause)  
the game of p  
peop's believe  
The people of  
to face with  
may be the po  
ment of Sir J  
stronger posit  
of that party  
unparalleled  
If we take t  
and these ar  
know how the  
gratifying fac  
1887, from ou  
other, 41 ill  
elected and  
hold the con  
place.) We

val? (Applause.) The people of this country moved that this treaty be carried into effect or die. It is a perfect treaty. It is a treaty of peace. It is a treaty of friendship. It is a treaty of commerce. It is a treaty of alliance. It is a treaty of mutual respect. It is a treaty of mutual benefit. It is a treaty of mutual understanding. It is a treaty of mutual cooperation. It is a treaty of mutual respect. It is a treaty of mutual benefit. It is a treaty of mutual understanding. It is a treaty of mutual cooperation.

Hon. Charles H. Tupper.

The Hon. Mr. Tupper in advancing was received with hearty cheers. He said: Mr. chairman, ladies, and gentlemen,—I feel highly gratified, but not in the least degree surprised at the royal and hearty welcome that you have given to-day to our distinguished chieftain, Sir John A. Macdonald, my hon. colleague, Sir John Thompson, has referred to an allusion of one of our newspapers in this province to the fact that our distinguished leader rarely visits Nova Scotia. You all know as well as I do the reason why it has not been necessary for the great leader of the conservative party to come frequently among you and to expound his policy. You have had the best evidence of the success of that policy, and you have always recognized when the proper time came for expressing your opinion the merits of supporting our great chieftain, who while perhaps a thousand miles away from this spot was able and present enough to understand your interests and to legislate to your advantage far more thoroughly than some so-called friends who are living amongst you and courting your votes. (Applause.) You have in the policy of Sir John A. Macdonald in regard to this province an evidence of interest in your welfare more valuable than words. The protection of iron and coal, and the protection of all your great interests is what you value; and when the old chieftain does come among you you are ready to show your appreciation of his attitude towards you, and you have shown that appreciation by the grand reception which you have so heartily given to-day. It is with considerable deference that I venture to follow Sir John Thompson in addressing you upon the political questions of the day, and it is with great difficulty that I address you at all in view of the significant and extraordinary silence that pervades the ranks of our opponents. A little irresponsible paper in Halifax, or any irresponsible rag in any other part of the country may tell you what the policy of our opponents is to be. A New Yorker, a secessionist and a gentleman who is

A FRIEND TO EVERY COUNTRY BUT HIS OWN, may tell you how our opponents can keep Canada for the Canadians but it is significant that since the shots were fired at Montmorency recently no liberal statesman has told you what the policy of the liberal party is to be to-morrow. (Laughter.) I have said elsewhere that the followers of the liberal party experienced this difficulty—that they go to bed night after night without being able to dream of what the policy of their leaders would be the next morning. They are sleeping now and sleeping soundly and it is difficult to imagine what the liberal leaders will next say in order to answer the arguments and attack the position of the administration of the day. The so-called liberal party in this country are never anything. They have had a despairing history since 1867 and the cold shades of opposition has affected their spirits and soul. (Applause and laughter.) They have played the game of politics and have made some people believe that all politics is but a game. The people of this country to-day are face to face with this fact, that no matter what may be the policy across the line the government of Sir John A. Macdonald stands in a stronger position than in 1878. The success of that party has been extraordinary, and it is unparalleled to-day. What are the facts? If we take the record of the by-elections—and these are the only tests by which we can know how the wind is blowing, we have the gratifying fact that of 52 by-elections since 1887, from one end of this Dominion to the other, 41 liberal-conservatives have been elected and only 11 liberals have been able to hold the confidence of the people. (Applause.) We have wrested seven seats from

what Mr. Mackenzie's government forgot—to their cost,—the necessity of always safeguarding the home market. (Applause.) We remember well the time when both political parties stood on a common platform regarding reciprocal relations with the United States, and took the independent position that

WE WERE NOT IN SUCH A STATE OF DEGRADATION

as to sue at the doors of any people for terms of trade. But the liberals at the same time forgot to hold our tariff in such a position as would prevent our country from being a slaughter market for foreign goods. (Applause.) In 1878 you reminded them sharply about their forgetfulness on that point, but since that year they have again retrograded, and have placed the people of this country on their guard, and made the people unwilling to trust them again. We have every reason in this country to be gratified at the progress that has been made since 1867,—a steadier progress no country can show. (Hear, hear.) Just contrast the difference of our position to-day from our position previous to the abrogation of the old treaty. The provinces of British North America were then in a state almost of panic, and the people who had yearned for the American market were fearing for the result of the abrogation of the treaty, and unable to predict what the consequences of the abrogation would be.

It was then that our chieftain came forward and presented a policy by which you could work out your national future independent of the interests of any country in the world, and

AS A KEY-STONE TO THAT ARCH

interprovincial trade was inculcated. What was the result? To day no matter how much we regret that our American friends have raised the bar higher, there is no sign of despair in this country, and though our profits may not be so much and though for a time we may be pinched, everyone has confidence that we can do in the future as in the past and as our fears were unfounded in 1865, so any fears existing to-day are based upon no better grounds. We will not confine the war to Africa but will pay more attention to a home market. We will look to Australia and to the mother country, to the West Indies and to China and Japan, in regard to which places we intend to have a quick connection. After all the opposition that was made against the construction of the great public works in this country, fancy our position to day if there were no Pacific railway. (Hear, hear,) or if the Intercolonial and its branches had not been constructed. (Applause.) Well, indeed, might the prophecies of Mr. Hatch and other United States officials have been fulfilled in such a case. In 1865 some people in the United States anxious that the stars and stripes should float over the whole continent, and thinking that we were dependent upon them, put in official reports that the proper course was to squeeze us and that the day would soon come when we would sue at their doors and ask for admission to the union. They even passed legislation giving specific terms upon which we could enter the union. Other officials pointed out that Canada had no seaboard or connection with the west, but by the magnificent policy of the Macdonald government all these things have turned out a huge and absurd delusion. To day by the pluck and energy of the people our country has been able to make itself independent and you have now won a position which will enable you to handle your own trade. Your means of transportation have so increased and the business interests of the country have so developed that even if debarré from the markets of our neighbor, we will have something to do in our own country and amidst our own people. There are many young men here to day who no doubt will have a longer life than our veteran

THE STATISTICS AS REGARDS FOREIGN TRADE, which I do not regard as the best test, we stand in this position that the trade of Canada is about \$40 per head while the trade of the United States is but \$25 per head. But taking what I regard as a far better test, the statistics as to investments in the saving's banks, the coasting trade, the traffic over our railways, the development of the railways and mileage, the bank circulation, the capital of banks and the bank discounts, the progress has been amazing since 1867. I could read to you by the hour statements out of the mouths of liberals made in 1887 1888, 1889, and 1890, admitting that extraordinary progress. (Applause.) One extract I will give you and that is from a paper that we all read with a great deal of pleasure and sometimes with amusement. It is a direct answer to the statements of the two liberal leaders to whom I have just referred. The Morning Chronicle on Thanksgiving Day in the year 1889 made this statement:

"We are sure that there has never been a year when the spirit of gratitude should be deeper and more fervent, for it has been essentially a year of blessing. The harvests have been abundant, and all lines of industry, agricultural, mining, shipping, lumbering have brought us satisfactory results. The country is universally prosperous."

And this is the year that had been the most disastrous year "in the history of the country since 1867." (Applause.) Let us take the development of our coal trade as a test. Sir John Thompson has alluded to that question, but if your patience will bear with me, I will say a few words upon it, as it is a subject which is very near to my heart. I may tell you that I look upon the development of the coal trade, whether in this country or the United States or Great Britain as the great test of national development. No country can ever be independent of commercial assaults from without, or political agitators from within, unless it has an extraordinary and limitless deposit of coal and that deposit of coal, be it great or small, will never amount to anything unless it is fostered and developed as it has been in this country since 1878, by the present government. If you run your minds back some years you will observe the policy that our neighbors adopted. Coal was selling at about \$9.50 per ton in 1865 in Boston, and the total production in the United States amounted to about six millions of tons in that year. On the abrogation of the reciprocity treaty the United States slapped us a duty of \$1.25 a ton. What was the result? The price of coal dropped to \$8.50 about in 1866. That country which produced with free trade in coal 6,000,000 of tons in 1878 produced 50,000,000 of tons, and in 1888, with coal selling at \$3.50 in Boston produced about 80,000,000 of tons. Just as their prosperity advanced their coal trade advanced

IN THIS PROVINCE WE HAVE THE MOST GRATIFYING FACT

since we have gone into our own market that the market which was denied us in the United States is being given to us in our own country. Our progress in that respect has been most gratifying in the United States. When we imposed the duty of sixty cents, the price of coal in the Montreal market was \$3.50 per ton. We have found a better market in Canada than we had in the United States. And yet there are gentlemen who will tell you that we should stop and instead of increasing that trade we should throw off the duty and enter into competition with the 80 or 90 millions of tons produced in the United States, with our total production of 2,000,000 tons and competing against their facilities for transportation and the cheap rates of their vessels of small draft,—that we should attempt with coal at that low figure to court commercial war with our vessels of deep draft and with heavy freights against us. Does any one suppose that our coal would be used in New England if admitted free? Business men have carefully looked into the question and will tell you

statement which does not wish to be made public until the general elections in Canada come off. (Laughter.) What is the use of looking to Blaine or Cleveland. You should pay your money and take your chance of either Sir John A. Macdonald or Laurier or Cartwright. I ought to state that we have some friends in congress whose names have never been published in Canada. I say that instead of giving credit to Mr. Hitt or Mr. Butterworth we should bestow our friendship upon Mr. Colman, Mr. Featherstone and Mr. Kelly as they were the only republicans that voted against the McKimley bill. The liberals tell you that our government is responsible for the hostile legislation on the other side of the line. The best denial of this charge is the record of our exertions to enter into a fair trade relations with the Americans. I heard Mr. McKimley introduce the tariff bill, and if you look at the records of congress you will see that the only point he called to the attention of congress when advocating high duties upon natural products was to quote the utterance of two distinguished gentlemen in this country. Who were they? According to the liberals they should be Sir John Macdonald and Sir John Thompson. But they were Mr. John Charlton and Mr. Goldwin Smith. Their speeches were quoted by Mr. McKimley to this effect, that the McKimley bill meant ruin to the Canadian farmer. Mr. McKimley quoted these speeches and smiled a happy smile and said: 'Mr. Chairman—I need not argue any further. (Applause and laughter.) That is the justification for the McKimley bill. If our friends to the south of us have the ambition to take us bodily under their flag, surely

#### THE TENDENCY OF THE ARGUMENTS OF THE OPPOSITION

to help the American especially when the leaders of the opposition declare that the position of Canada is dependent on the action of the United States; and that we cannot live without their trade. General Butler once said that the Canadians were blubbering for want of reciprocity—and, he added, I would not give them reciprocity if they blubbered themselves blind. (Laughter.) We do not intend to 'blubber' or to cry for reciprocity. we will work out the destiny of our country on the lines alluded to by my distinguished colleague, and if we can only succeed in the future as in the past, I make this prophecy that a new party will be formed in this country—a party so different from the present liberal party that you will have to look very carefully over the list to see if there is a liberal in it. (Applause and laughter.)

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.—I thank you very heartily for the kind attention you have given my address—many parts of which I was obliged to hurry over or condense in order that your patience would be rewarded by hearing Sir John Macdonald before the evening had set in.

Hon. Mr. Tupper resumed his seat amid hearty cheering.

#### Address to the Chieftain.

Mr. Stairs read the following address to the chieftain

TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD, G. C. B., Prime Minister of Canada, &c., &c., &c.

Sir,—The Liberal Conservative Association of Halifax, on behalf of your numerous personal and political friends in Nova Scotia, have taken advantage of this occasion to tender you a cordial welcome to this province.

Your long and successful leadership of the liberal conservative party of Canada, and the numerous and beneficial reforms that by and with that party, you have effected in the government of this country, have made your name a familiar and honored one throughout this section of the Dominion. This, however, is the first opportunity that has presented itself to representatives of all sections of the province of demonstrating in your presence the admiration and affection entertained for you by an overwhelming majority of the people of Nova Scotia.

We recall with pride the fact that in the

And we are pleased to know that further measures calculated to be of great and permanent advantage to this city and the province are at the present time engaging the attention of your government. The extension of the C. P. R. and G. T. R. to this port; the promotion of a line of swift steamers between Canada and the mother country; the establishment of closer commercial relations with the British West Indies, are all measures to the early accomplishment of which we look forward with much pleasure. Now that the great work of Canadian extension westward has been so successfully completed, we trust that the British American provinces to the east and south of us, who have not yet joined the Canadian confederation, may be induced to cast in their lot with us, and that on you may devolve the honor of completing what you have so well begun, the consolidation of British power on this continent by the creation of a commonwealth that shall be a not unworthy representative in America of the great empire to which we belong.

In conclusion we beg to express anew our confidence in the policy of your administration, which, unlike the varying, illusory and imported policy of our political opponents, is founded on the patriotism and self reliance of our people, and tends to the upbuilding of Canadian industry, the development of interprovincial trade, and the regulation of our commerce with other countries so as to insure the greatest profit to the Canadian people.

Wishing you long life and happiness,

We remain, your obedient servants,

JOHN F. STAIRS, President,

F. J. TREMAINE, Secretary.

#### Sir John Macdonald.

SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD on rising was accorded a most enthusiastic reception. He said, Mr. chairman, ladies and gentlemen: I cannot hope to make my feeble voice extend so as to be heard by this vast assembly. I must, however, extend to you my deepest and most hearty thanks for the cordial welcome you have given me. The life of a politician, especially of an official, is not a very pleasant one. His path is not strewn with roses; and in Canada where statesmen are, as I believe, tolerably honest it is not a source of wealth or domestic comfort. But there are consolations also in connection with the life of a politician. In the first place there is the sense of having performed your duty to your country; and in the second place there is a pleasure in receiving such a hearty welcome as I have received to-day, when, at the approaching end of my career, in my 76th year and in the 46th year of my parliamentary experience, and about the 25th year of my official position, I can come before a body of men, most of whom are personal strangers, and receive this most cordial greeting. (Applause.) I do not desire to frighten my youthful colleagues, whom you have listened to with so much pleasure and instruction, by pointing out to them the thorny path before them, but I hold out to them as recompense for all their labours the fact that if they perform their duties in the future as they have done in the past, and if their official life will blossom into full fruition, they will receive from their fellow countrymen testimonials like the one which has just been made as a record for all their toils, troubles, and discomforts. I am told that a reproach has been cast upon me by one of your newspapers, that I have not visited Nova Scotia or Halifax, often enough. The speeches that you have heard to-day should be sufficient answer to that reproach. If I cannot come myself as often as I would like to do, in consequence of the multitude of my duties, and the extent of area which I have to govern; or as our friends of the opposition would say to misgovern (laughter) my answer is that I have been represented

tion. (Laughter.) As to my faults, if I don't know them it is not because I was not told them. (Applause.) My portrait was drawn frequently, and in the grit papers it was not drawn with chalk but with charcoal. (Laughter.) Sometimes indeed I did not recognize myself, and I don't think from your kind expressions and from the majority that has supported me continually—that the electorate of Canada consider that these portraits were a good likeness. (Applause and laughter.)

I do not propose to weary you, gentlemen, with a lengthy discussion of the policy of my government. You have already heard a clear and honest exposition of our policy from my hon. colleagues. If you

#### LOOK BACK TO THE YEAR 1867

you will recall the position of the four scattered provinces at that time you will remember how helpless we were, without credit or prestige, comfortable enough in having plenty to eat and drink, but without any mark or consideration among the people of the earth. We joined together in 1867 and ever since that time with the exception of a short period, the progress of the country has gone on "with leaps and bounds"—to use Mr. Gladstone's expression,—and the credit of the scattered provinces, which was at zero, is to-day almost equal to the credit of the mother country itself. (applause.) Speaking of the old provinces of Canada, I can state that it was with very great difficulty that they could raise money in England for any purpose; and when they did so they had to pay a large interest. They borrowed their money at a rate almost equal to seven per cent. Now we get our money,—and can get it to any extent, at 3½ per cent. When our opponents talk about the debt of Canada as increasing, it should be remembered that it is not the amount of the debt itself that should be looked at, but the interest, which has to be paid on that debt. (Hear, hear.) The real burden is the interest which falls due year after year, and generation after generation. (Hear, hear.) If, for instance, the debt was one million dollars, and you paid six per cent interest, as you did a few years ago, and if on the other hand the debt is now two millions of dollars, and you pay only three per cent, you are consequently no more in debt than you were when you only owed a million. (Applause.) I admit that we have increased the liabilities of the country; but we have done so in the same way that any one of you in the effort to improve your property would

#### BORROW MONEY FOR NECESSARY IMPROVEMENTS.

You would give a mortgage for so much money, and your property would become improved and more valuable. And the fact that you owe a certain sum of money spent in improving your property, only shows that you are not a slothful, but an enterprising man, useful to yourself, your family and your country. (Applause.) But sir, the opposition not only charge us with having increased the debt of the country, but they charge us also with corruption in the increase of that debt. And what do you think is the evidence of corruption? We have built railways all over Canada and therefore we have bought up the constituencies. (Laughter.) Well, I am glad to say that I have proved to the constituencies that we are anxious to develop every county and every part of every county, and if that be bribery I acknowledge the corn. (Applause and laughter.) Take Cape Breton for example, which was without a railway a few years ago. Look at it now! Of course our opponents will say that we have bought Cape Breton. Look at New Brunswick, which our opponents say we also bought. We have

my faults, if I ment which advanced the prosperity of this country one single inch I pause for a reply. These gentlemen drew their salaries and governed the country, but the country practically lost five years' growth as the net result of their administration. (Laughter.) Confederation commenced, as you know, on the 1st of July 1867; and with the exception of those five years I have referred to, Canada by the independent voice of its people has been governed by the conservative party. Five years experience of grit government was quite enough for the people of this country (laughter). Our opponents were weighed in the balance and found wanting, and in 1873 the people said—'We have tried you and you have failed, and we will go back to the old effete but common sense government of Sir John A. Macdonald (applause and laughter). My hon. colleagues have spoken to you upon

THE QUESTION OF RECIPROCITY. The great fear of the opposition is that the government of Canada should really take up that question in its entirety. They are afraid that we will get credit for doing so, and they say that the United States statesmen are so disgusted with the arrogance of the 'tory' administration in Canada that they will not make a reasonable tariff that would be beneficial to Canada until the 'tories are out and the grits are in. (laughter). You know that the reciprocity treaty which was negotiated in 1854 was confined to natural products of the land and sea. It was not made any wider for two reasons; first, because, although England very magnanimously told us to make a treaty to suit ourselves in regard to our natural products with the United States, she intimated that she could not allow us to make a treaty with regard to manufactures that would discriminate against her; and in the next place the government of the United States utterly repudiated any idea of having reciprocity in manufactured articles. So that of necessity the treaty of 1854 was confined to the products of the land and sea. Who carried that measure of reciprocity through the parliament of Canada? The government of which I was a member. (Applause.) When it was terminated by the United States in 1866, it was no fault of ours. It was done from the caprice of the congress of the United States. If they had looked at statistical returns they would have seen that the trade established by that treaty was of great advantage at that time to both Canada and the United States; but they were irritated because it was supposed that England had sympathized with the Southern States during their disastrous civil war, and to punish Canada as part of the British empire, thinking that they were punishing England also, they terminated the treaty. But, gentlemen,

WE DID NOT WHINE OR 'BLUBBER,' but we said 'if one door is shut we will open another; and we did open another. (Applause.) We went at it like men, and much to the relief of the people, especially the farming classes who naturally were somewhat frightened at first, the population of Canada found that they were more frightened than hurt. Since then this country has progressed as if that treaty had never been made or ended. But the conservative government did not rest upon their oars. They pressed, as far as self respect would allow them, upon the government and legislature of the United States our desire to enter into new negotiations for the establishment of reciprocal trade between the two countries. It was declined. We sent to Washington two ministers, Sir Alex. Galt, an old

not become a United States citizen, because he would not in that case have so much influence in Canada in getting the Canadians to sacrifice their interests and sell themselves to the United States (Hear, hear). But gentlemen, I have no fear that the electors of Canada will ever be so mean and sordid and traitorous and unworthy of the country from which they come, and the men from whom they sprung, as to sell their heritage for a mess of pottage, or even a pot of gold. (Loud and long continued applause.) We prize the old flag and the traditions connected with it more. (Continued applause.) We prize the laws that we have got from England. We prize the conservative—I use the word not in its partisan sense—the conservative spirit which protects the rights of the minority—that spirit which makes the law the governing principle of a country. Why, Mr. Chairman, what would we have to gain from joining the United States? It is a great country, and will be a greater, but like all young countries it will have its vicissitudes, its reverses and its revolutions. Do not we see already from

#### THE MASS OF FOREIGN IGNORANCE AND FOREIGN VICE

that has poured into the United States, how uneasily the working population move in the great labor centres? Do not you see communism, and socialism and atheism, and every other ism there? That the United States will rise superior and out of these heterogeneous particles and form one great people, I have no doubt, but depend upon it they are going to have their revolutions and upheavals, while we shall sit calmly under the protecting flag of Great Britain and enjoy the magnificent country that God has given us and look with philosophic eyes at the struggles of a fierce and discordant democracy. (Prolonged applause.)

The McKinley bill has been passed with a great deal of avowal upon the part of the United States—that it is only a domestic measure, that it has no relation to foreign people, but is only necessary for their own purposes. Be it so. They have taken their course, and we will take ours. I have no doubt but that our neighbours thought that these additional duties would be injurious to Canada; but they will not be much of an injury to Canada, if as I believe, in consequence of their closing the gate on our products and preventing their entrance into the United States, the energy of our people will be directed more earnestly than ever to the finding of other markets both within the dominion and beyond it. When the United States first imposed a duty on your coal I remember well the great dread that was expressed in this province. There was serious apprehension that the coal interests would be destroyed. What are the facts? Mr. Tupper has shown you that instead of that interest being destroyed it has greatly flourished and the annual output greatly increased. Your coal, under the protection of the national policy, crept up to Quebec, then to Montreal, and then to Ontario; and with more energy, capital and experience, the Nova Scotia coal owners will be able ere long to supply Ontario with coal, a province that formerly was obliged to get all its coal from the United States. I will give you

#### AN INSTANCE OF WHAT ENERGY CAN ACCOMPLISH.

As you know the United States farmers cannot raise the fine clear barley which they prize so much for their lager beer. The Germans in the United States are desirous that that beer should be a little paler and a little sweeter, than could be

don't the wisdom of resting upon the ancient monarchy of Great Britain and working out our destiny in connection with that great country will be pressed upon us more and more. (Cheers.)

#### LOOK WHAT GREAT BRITAIN IS DOING FOR US

now! It is of no consequence to the mother country whether Behring Sea is closed or not, or whether seals there are captured by Russians, Yankees, or Canadians, and yet the imperial government under the leadership of Lord Salisbury is insisting upon the rights of Canada in that sea. (Cheers.) What would we do if separated from the empire? A powerless five millions against sixty-five millions! We would be humiliated as every turn until finally absorbed. The lamb would be in the stomach of the lion within a very short time after our severance from the empire. Look at the city of Halifax, the Gibraltar of America, garrisoned by imperial troops. What if we took a course inimical to Great Britain or adopted independence? If we were foolish enough to enter into an arrangement for unrestricted reciprocity, opening the doors for the United States manufactures and other United States products, and shutting the doors to British manufactures and its products, what would Britain say? Halifax would be of no more use to her than Heligoland was. Britain would withdraw her fleet and troops, and Halifax would suffer. (Hear, hear.) I am sure the young ladies of Halifax would suffer a great deal. (Laughter.) But no such unhappy fate threatens Halifax or the fair sex. The fleets will come as usual with their blue jackets and their afternoon dances (laughter) and the red coats will perambulate your streets as of yore. (Laughter.) Mr. chairman, in all seriousness, if the electors of Canada are as true to their country in the future as they have been in the past, there need be no fear of the destiny of Canada.

#### WE APPEAL ESPECIALLY TO THE YOUTH OF THIS COUNTRY

who expect to live and die in Canada, and to become heads of families and rich men in this country, to hand down to their children the heritage they received from their ancestors. Let them consider what hope they would have if they varied for a moment, or were tempted to be seduced from the path which the majority of people of Nova Scotia have pursued with so much success. It is indeed a great credit to the people of Nova Scotia that they have attained that success. Nova Scotia is a small province in comparison to Ontario and Quebec. Yet look at the men Nova Scotia has sent to represent her in the parliament of Canada! Whether the reformers or the conservatives were in power, Nova Scotia will always have more than its quota of representatives in the government of this country, because it sends the right men. (Applause.) Continue to do so and you will get your reward, as you are now receiving your reward in having two such distinguished representatives in the government as have addressed you to-day. (Prolonged cheering.)

In response to loud calls, brief addresses were given by T. E. Kenny, M. P., and Prof. Weldon, M. P., who voiced the sentiments of the large gathering in expressing the heartiness with which they welcomed the chieftain to this province, the confidence and affection of whose people he must ever retain.

The proceedings were brought to a close by rousing cheers for the Queen, for Sir John Macdonald, Sir John Thompson, Hon. C. H. Tupper and Messrs. Kenny and Stairs.